

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method of providing IP telephony services, which comprises the steps of:
2 mapping a telephony signaling protocol called party number nature of address indicator to
3 an Internet signaling protocol nature of address indicator; and
4 mapping a telephony signaling protocol called party number numbering plan indicator to
5 an Internet signaling protocol numbering plan indicator.

- 1 2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said Internet signaling protocol is session
2 initiation protocol.

- 1 3. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said Internet protocol nature of address
2 indicator and said Internet protocol number plan indicator are contained in an invite request.

- 1 4. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said telephony signaling protocol is SS7.

- 1 5. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said telephony signaling protocol is ISUP.

- 1 6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said telephony signaling protocol is ISDN.

- 1 7. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said telephony signaling protocol is CAS.

- 1 8. The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said telephony protocol nature of address
2 indicator and said telephony protocol number plan indicator are contained in an initial address
3 message.

1 9. A method of providing telephony services, which comprises the steps of:
2 receiving a call setup message in a first signaling protocol at a gateway between a first
3 network and a second network, said call setup message including a called party number, said
4 called party number including a numbering plan indicator and a nature of address indicator; and
5 generating a call setup message in a second signaling protocol at said gateway between
6 said first network and said second network, said call setup message in said second signaling
7 protocol including said called party number, said called party number including said numbering
8 plan indicator and said nature of address indicator.

1 10. The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said first network is a public switched
2 telephone network and said second network is an IP network.

1 11. The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said first signaling protocol is SS7 and said
2 second signaling protocol is session initiation protocol.

1 12. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein call setup message in said first protocol is an
2 initial address message and said call setup message in said second protocol is an invite request.

1 13. The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said first network is an IP network and said
2 second network is a public switched telephone network.

1 14. The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein said first signaling protocol is session
2 initiation protocol and said second signaling protocol is SS7.

1 15. The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein said first signaling protocol is session
2 initiation protocol and said second signaling protocol is ISDN.

1 16. The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein said first signaling protocol is session
2 initiation protocol and said second signaling protocol is CAS.

1 17. The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein call setup message in said first protocol is an
2 invite request and said call setup message in said second protocol is an initial address message.

1 18. An IP telephony gateway, which comprises:
2 means for mapping a telephony signaling protocol called party number nature of address
3 indicator to an Internet signaling protocol nature of address indicator; and
4 means for mapping a telephony signaling protocol called party number numbering plan
5 indicator to an Internet signaling protocol numbering plan indicator.

1 19. The IP telephony gateway as claimed in claim 14, wherein said Internet signaling protocol
2 is session initiation protocol.

1 20. The IP telephony gateway as claimed in claim 15, wherein said telephony signaling
2 protocol is SS7.

1 21. The IP telephony gateway as claimed in claim 15, wherein said telephony signaling
2 protocol is ISDN.

1 22. The IP telephony gateway as claimed in claim 15, wherein said telephony signaling
2 protocol is CAS.

1 23. The IP telephony gateway as claimed in claim 16, wherein said telephony signaling
2 protocol is ISUP.

1 24. The IP telephony gateway as claimed in claim 14, comprising:
2 means for mapping an Internet signaling protocol called party number nature of address
3 indicator to a telephony signaling protocol nature of address indicator; and
4 means for mapping an Internet signaling protocol called party number numbering plan
5 indicator to a telephony signaling protocol numbering plan indicator.